

The seed potato stocks listed are eligible for final certification based on history, field inspections and certain other preliminary requirements. Representative samples of the plants growing in the field have been inspected for disease and found to be within the tolerance established in Bulletin No. 49, available from the State Seed Department. The fields were given at least two inspections. Disease detections are based upon visible symptoms expressed in the potato plants, except for latent potato viruses which are detected by serological methods. Blackleg disease detection is based on the plant expressing a rotten, black, slimy appearance to the stem. In no way does this imply the amount of the bacteria, *Erwinia spp.*, present in the tubers produced by this crop. The zero tolerance for bacterial ring rot is chosen for reasons of convenience and practicality and is not to be construed to mean that the lot is free from the disease. It means none of the disease was found during inspection. Final certification is not granted until potatoes are properly inspected and graded, identified with North Dakota official tags and passed official grade inspection. You must receive the Federal/State certificate to be assured of certified seed.

In North Dakota certified seed potatoes passing field and storage inspections may be sorted into two grades for out of state shipments.

1. **BLUE TAG** grade is given to seed lots having the higher standards for physical defects, condition and size that approximate U.S. No. 1.
2. **YELLOW TAG** grade is given to seed lots that have passed field and storage inspection but do not quite meet the grade standards of Blue Tag. They approximate U.S. Commercial.
3. **A WHITE TAG** is also used, but only for shipments within the state. Seed Department grade inspection on white tag lots is not compulsory but may be obtained upon request.

Many lots are clonal selections of limited generations, but are not so indicated in the book. Foundation or eligible for recertification list is released in February and is available upon request. Winter testing programs are principally a test for virus diseases, consequently with our low virus incidence and lack of late season infection, only foundation or recertification type seed need be winter tested.

An asterisk (\*) indicates submitted samples from fields were carefully tested for Potato Virus X by an ELISA (Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay) test and found to show from zero to 2%. Upon request, certified tags will be printed to show Virus X Tested. To qualify for PVX testing, no bacterial ring rot may be found on the farm.

An "F" signifies that seed lots are Foundation Class and eligible for recertification in North Dakota according to Bulletin No. 49.

A "C" signifies that seed lots are Certified Class and not eligible for recertification in North Dakota according to Bulletin No. 49.

An "E" signifies that seed lots are Experimental Class in North Dakota according to Bulletin No. 49.

A plus sign (+) signifies that the variety is protected by US-Patent, PVP Act, Material Transfer Agreement or subject to registration fees under owner/grower contract. Buyers of protected varieties are advised to validate the status of the variety from the vendors, variety owner, or the certification agency of the state, province or country in which the seed buyer/grower is a permanent resident.

Acreage includes some stock grown for processing but not the fields rejected for application of a sprout inhibitor.

## A SUMMARY OF SEED POTATO REQUIREMENTS

1. Fields must be planted with seed that has been winter tested and approved for recertification.
2. All potatoes in the farming operation must be entered for inspection.
3. All equipment and storages in the farming operation may be used only on the acreage entered for certification.
4. Fields are usually given three or more inspections.
5. Field tolerances:

Generation	Second and all Subsequent Inspections						
	Disease Tolerances (%)						
	Foundation Class				Certified Class		
	N	1	2	3	4	5	Any Generation
Varietal mixture	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Severe mosaic	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.0
Leafroll	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.0
Total serious Virus	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.0
Spindle Tuber	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
**Bacterial ring rot	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

\*\*The zero tolerance means that no amount is permissible when inspected. It does not mean that the seed is absolutely free of disease or disease causing agents, but that none was found during inspection.

Since the blackleg disease may be latent, the inspector will record only the amount observed, however any excessive amount can be cause for rejection.

6. Equipment and storages must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at least once annually.
7. Seed potatoes in this list have been field inspected as specified in Bulletin No. 49. The State Seed Department and the inspection staff serve only in an official regulatory manner and do not relieve the grower or owner of his responsibility.

## SEED LAW

### NDCC: 4-10-06.1. Seed potatoes- Certification requirement.

1. A person may not plant seed potatoes in lots of one acre [.405 hectare] or more, for the purpose of selling the crop to be harvested, unless the seed potatoes:
  - a. Have been certified by the commissioner as meeting the standards of this chapter;
  - b. Have been certified by another state or province having a similar seed potato quality assurance program; or
  - c. Have been field-inspected and approved by the commissioner.

2. The commissioner shall permit a North Dakota grower to plant uncertified potatoes grown by the grower, if the grower is within twelve months of having the grower's own certified parent seed potatoes.
3. The commissioner shall permit a North Dakota potato grower to sell or otherwise transfer certified seed potatoes to another North Dakota potato grower. The recipient grower may plant the seed potatoes only for commercial production. The seed potatoes may not be recertified or retained for use in the following production cycle.
4. If the commissioner has reason to believe that seed potatoes meeting the requirements of this section are not available in sufficient quantities to fulfill planting needs, the commissioner may permit the planting of seed potatoes with a higher disease content, provided that bacterial ring rot is not present and that a serious disease threat is not posed.

**NDCC: 4-10-06.2. Records.** Every person who plants potatoes on more than one acre [405 hectare] shall maintain records indicating the acreage [hectareage], varieties, and source of all seed potatoes planted. The records must be available for inspection by the commissioner for a period of two years.

**NDCC: 4-10-06.3.** Imported seed potatoes - Certification requirement. All seed potatoes imported into this state for planting purposes by any person from any state, territory, or country must be accompanied by an official grade certificate describing the grade of the potatoes or a health certificate to certify that the lot of seed potatoes was field inspected by an official certifying agency and is similar to the standards established by this chapter for seed potatoes.

**NDCC: 4-10-06.4.** Exported seed potatoes - Certification requirement. All seed potatoes exported from this state must be accompanied by an official grade certificate describing the grade of the potatoes or a health certificate to certify that the lot of seed potatoes was field inspected by the State Seed Department.

**NDCC: 4-10-06.5.** Records. Every person who plants imported seed potatoes on more than one acre [405 hectare] of land shall maintain records indicating the acreage [hectareage], varieties, and sources of all seed potatoes planted. The records must be available for inspection by the commissioner for a period of two years.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

**NDCC: 4-10-12.1.** The state seed commission, state seed department, commissioner and the commissioner's employees, certified seed potato producers, and wholesale potato dealers licensed under chapter 4-11 make no warranty of any kind, expressed or implied as to the quantity or quality of the crop produced from the seed potatoes or through other produce inspected and certified, including merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or absence of disease. The only representation is that the potatoes or other produce were produced, graded, packed, and inspected under the rules of the state seed department or United States department of agriculture. The commissioner and the commissioner's employees function and serve only in an official regulatory manner.

Note: Additional information related to North Dakota Seed Laws can be obtained from the North Dakota State Seed Department.

**NOTICE**  
**Line Selections / Varietal Strains**

The North Dakota State Seed Department's potato certification service confirms that each lot of potatoes in this directory have met the standards or requirements of State law, including but not limited to variety name and presence or absence of disease. This directory may also list the line selection/variety strain of certain identifiable varieties, such as Norland and Russet Norkotah. Although the certification tag may designate variety, strain or line selection names, that information is derived solely from the applicant for certification services and from information that the applicant received from previous growers. Individual seed growers may have developed, or obtained from another source, lines/strains that possess yield, maturity, vine or tuber characteristics that may be different from the variety as originally described and named. A line/strain cannot usually be distinguished from the parent potato variety by conventional certification methods or by laboratory testing means. The seed grower is responsible for informing the seed buyer about line/strain existence and characteristics. Seed buyers should ask seed sellers about lines/strains that may be included among the seed lots listed.